

Historic Preservation Planning for Rosebud Battlefield



View to the South toward
Crooks Hill from Conical Hill



Ledger Art depicting a scene from the
Rosebud battle, drawn by the Lakota
leader Joseph White Bull

Preservation Planning Project

In 2005, the Montana Preservation Alliance (MPA) received a grant from the National Park Service to work in partnership with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) and create an historic preservation plan for Rosebud Battlefield, located in southeastern Montana.

A significant portion of the battlefield core is managed by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) as Rosebud Battlefield State Park. Elements of the cultural resource preservation plan will likely be included in FWP's forthcoming management plan for the park.

The Need for Planning

- **No FWP management plans (General, Natural or Cultural Resource,) exist for Rosebud Battlefield State Park. An Interim Strategy was developed in 2003.**
- **2003 interim guidelines developed by FWP identified the threat of energy development in and adjacent to Rosebud State Park. Other threats include vandalism, trespass and illegal collecting.**

The Need for Planning

- Systematic cultural resource surveys date from the early 1980s, and identified only prehistoric resources.
- Most published history is U.S. military centered.
- Cultural landscapes have not been identified.
- Plans for museum collections and archives do not exist.
- Need for new Interpretation.



J.W. Vaughn's Field Equipment

What We Did

- Background Research to generate baseline information
 - Prehistoric/historic archeology
 - Ethnography/History
 - Museum Collections
 - Historic Structures
 - Cultural Landscapes
- Met with adjacent private property owners
- Met with tribal representatives
- Conducted research into mineral ownership.

Results So Far

- **Draft report completed March 2007; submitted to FWP and NPS for comments. FWP has responded with comments.**
- **Goal is to complete final report in a timely fashion for use by FWP/VAC/Peaks to Plains.**

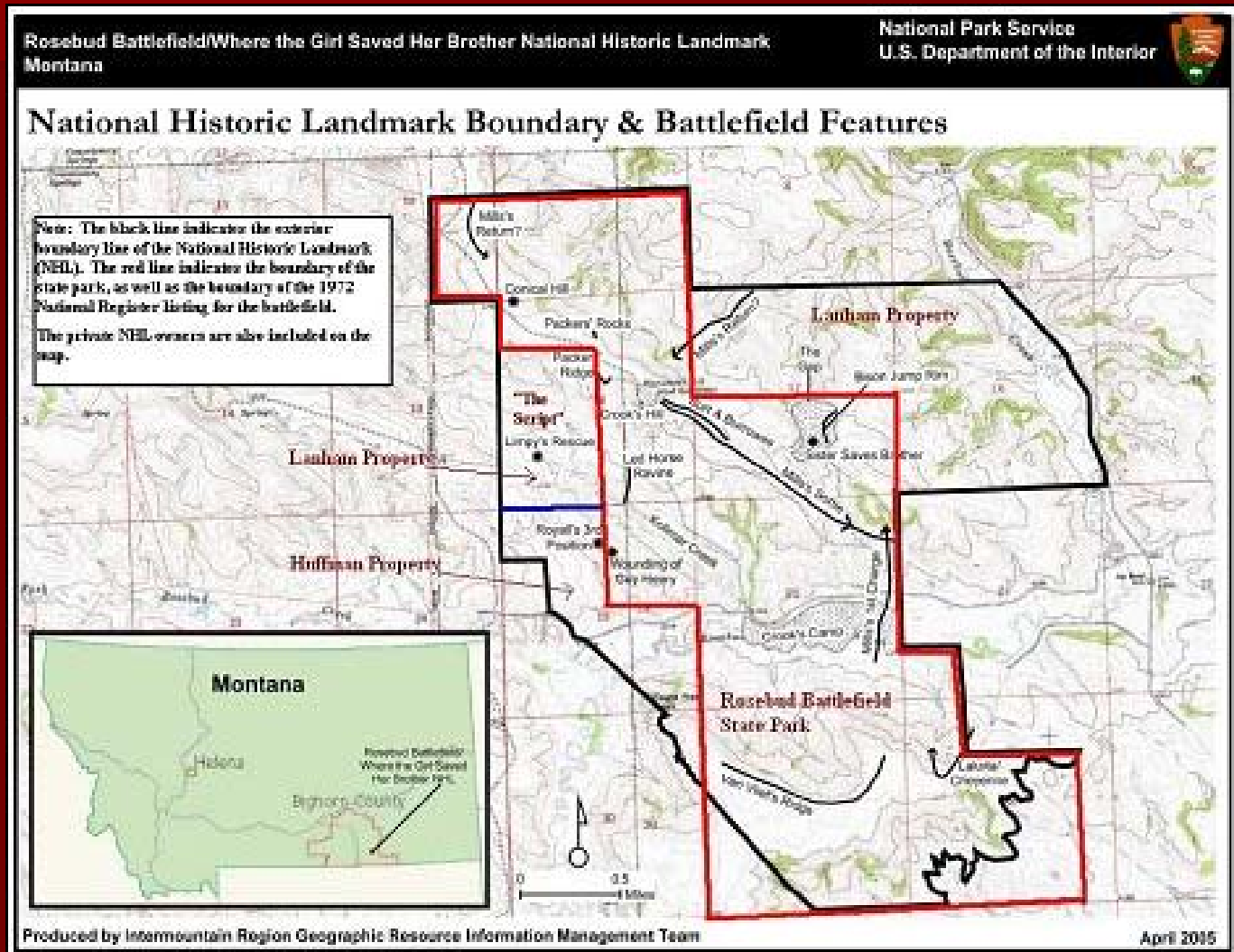
Federal Relationship to the Battlefield

- **Bureau of Land Management connection due to federal mineral leases beneath the state park.**
- **No Surface Occupancy Stipulations on federal minerals.**
 - **Cultural/Paleontology/Recreational**
 - **WEMS for cultural and paleontological resources**
 - **Directional drilling could occur on private property surrounding the state park pending a federal Application for Permit to Drill (APD) and surface use agreement with Montana. A federal permit that would involve compliance with NHPA Section 106.**
- **BLM Protection?**
 - **Area Management Concern/Area of Critical Environmental Concern/Special Management Areas**

National Register and National Historic Landmark Status

- **1972; listed on the National Register by Elmer Kobold.**
- **2002-3; National Park Service undertakes efforts to recognize national significance of Rosebud Battlefield.**
- **2005-2006; Approval by the State Review Board and two NPS/NHL committees. Process halted by NPS due to concerns regarding mineral ownership rights.**
- **Option to amend existing NR nomination to reflect national significance and NHL boundaries.**

Current National Register and Pending NHL Boundaries



State Mineral Ownership

- **The State of Montana owns one known oil and gas mineral lease. This area covers 480 acres, and the surface land is privately owned and falls within the proposed Rosebud Battlefield NHL boundary. The area is directly adjacent to Rosebud Battlefield State Park.**
- **Montana attached stipulations, such as review of cultural resources, 30-day owner notification, and a requirements that the “Lessee shall comply with any mitigation measures stipulated in the TLMD’s approval.”**
- **Lease is available for renewal in 2008.**

Cultural Resource Priority Recommendations

- **Continue to Make Retirement of the Mineral Development Threat to Rosebud Battlefield State Park an Urgent Priority for the Entire Parks Program.**
- **Encourage the State Legislature to fund FWP cultural resource and Rosebud Battlefield State Park Staff Positions.**
- **Encourage FWP relationships with State Legislators to Secure Enhanced Funding for Rosebud Battlefield State Park Projects**
- **Undertake Parks Division-Wide Cultural Resource Training to Broaden Park Cultural Resource Management Skills.**
- **Compile all known resource data related to Rosebud Battlefield State Park into a single repository in Helena.**
- **Create an Administrative History of Rosebud Battlefield State Park**

Potential Mineral Ownership Remedies

Private

- **Preservation easement over mineral rights.** Property owners in the National Register listing or the National Historic Landmark (NHL) would be eligible for an easement, which requires conveyance to a qualifying organization. State income tax relief.
- **Conservation Easement.** This type of easement does not necessarily require the conveyance any property rights to other entities. Instead, the property owner can simply place certain restrictions on the use of the property. Conservation easements are voluntary agreements between a land trust or agency (such as FWP) and a private landowner. Potential property tax relief.
- **Privately-owned mineral rights may be donated to an organization such as the National Trust for Historic Preservation.** Such a donation would qualify as charitable tax deduction. Used in Montana in the case of Weatherman Draw. Income tax abatement.
- **Outright purchase of private mineral rights by the State of Montana.**

State

- **FWP and SHPO work with DNRC to allow mineral ownership by landowners.**

Potential Mineral Ownership Remedies

Tribal

- **Continued Consultation with the Crow Nation. Designate contacts between FWP and the Crow Nation**

Federal

- **For federally-owned mineral rights throughout the core battlefield, FWP and SHPO should proactively engage with BLM during the current planning process related to the new resource management plan (RMP) for the region.**

Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Prehistoric and Historic Archeology

- **FWP Should Undertake a Historical Archeological Survey for Battle-Related sites and resources.**
- **FWP Should Undertake an Archeological Overview and Assessment to Assess Known Archeological Resources.**



Star warrior on the face of the bison jump.

Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Ethnography & History

- **Negotiate a Standing Memorandum of Agreement for tribes affiliated with the Rosebud Battle and other park resources.**
- **Undertake an Ethnographic Overview and Assessment for traditionally-affiliated groups, such as affiliated tribes and long-term ranch families.**



Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Cultural Landscapes



Cultivated fields on the battleground during the Kobold Era.

- **Consult with Rosebud Battlefield landowners regarding the potential of the future purchase of battlefield lands by the State of Montana.**
- **Undertake a Cultural Landscape Report for Rosebud Battlefield State Park.**

Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Museum Collections



Portion of a private collection of battle-related artifacts.

- **Undertake a collections inventory of public and private collections related to the Rosebud Battle.**

Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Historic Structures

- **Consult with the State Historic Preservation Office, as called for under the State Antiquities Act, regarding future alterations to the Kobold Homestead site.**

Cultural Resource Project Recommendations

Education & Interpretation

- **Create new interpretation that would 1) improve the visitor experience by relating the battle to key points within the battlefield landscape; 2) educate the visitor regarding the battle from U.S. military, Crow/Shoshone, and Lakota/Cheyenne perspective, the larger Plains War, the 19th century tribal experience, homesteading, and prehistoric occupation; and 3) preserve the integrity of the battlefield landscape.**
- **Work with tribal representatives in the creation and implementation of tribal interpretation, as well as the appropriateness and type of tribal commemorative markers.**
- **Consider the future construction of a park cultural center, as well as new access road, in the southern portion of the park or on adjacent state-owned land.**

Other Threats

Erosion and Vandalism

- **Identify and Digitally Record Historically Authentic Rock Art.**

Park Security

- **Fund the Installation and Use of Security Cameras For Rosebud Battlefield State Park.**

Fire Management

- **Integrate Fire Management with Cultural Resource Planning in the forthcoming Rosebud Battlefield State Park Management Plan.**



Results of illegal vehicle travel within the park.

The End—Thank You